



2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037-3213

T 202.293.7060
F 202.293.7860

1010 El Camino Real
Menlo Park, CA 94025-4345
T 650.325.5800
F 650.325.6606

September 16, 2003

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Toei Nishi Shimbashi Bldg. 4F
13-5 Nishi Shimbashi 1-Chome
Minato-Ku, Tokyo 105-0003
Japan

T 03.3503.3760
F 03.3503.3756

www.sughrue.com

Re: Application of USUI, Minoru, TSUKADA, Kenji, KANAYA, Munehide,
TAMURA, Noboru
LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID
CONTAINER, AND INK CARTRIDGE
Assignee: SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION
Our Ref: Q77369



Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. 09/574,015 (Confirmation No. 6777) filed May 19, 2000 of USUI, Minoru, TSUKADA, Kenji, KANAYA, Munehide, TAMURA, Noboru entitled LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER, AND INK CARTRIDGE.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification, including the claims and abstract, 35 sheet(s) of drawings, and a copy of the Declaration as filed in the prior application. Also, submitted herewith is an IDS and a Proprietary IDS.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 2856.

Priority is claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	11-139683	May 20, 1999
Japan	11-147538	May 27, 1999
Japan	11-256522	September 10, 1999

The priority documents were filed in parent Application No. 09/574,015.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	15	-	20	=	_____	x	\$18.00	=	_____	\$0.00	
Independent claims	1	-	3	=	_____	x	\$84.00	=	_____	\$0.00	
Base Fee											\$750.00

TOTAL FILING FEE **\$750.00**



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A check for the statutory fee of \$750.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

By

Jeffrey A. Schmidt
Registration No. 41,574

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER